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Docket No. HRT-0293

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Stevens et al.

Serial No.

10/099,690

Art Unit

3738

Filed

March 15, 2002

Examiner

D. Isabella

Title

Method and Apparatus for Thoracoscopic Intracardiac Procedures

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

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(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

November 14, 2002

(Date of Signature)

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This is an amendment in the above application, which is a continuation of copending application application Serial No. 09/411,095, filed October 4, 1999.

In the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph with the following:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/411,095, filed October 4, 1999, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,401,720, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/643,898, filed May 7, 1996, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,079,414, which is a divisional of application Serial No. 08/425,179, filed April 20, 1995, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,797,960, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/163,241,

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